



***CITY OF EASTHAMPTON***  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

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Telephone #: (413) 529-1460

**January 14, 2021**

**TO: City Council**

**FROM: Peg Conniff, City Council President**  
**Owen Zaret, Councilor at Large**

Colleagues:

The events at the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021 were despicable and unconscionable. As each day passes, we learn more about the violence and destruction wrought on that day which resulted in 5 deaths. We will likely hear more frightening details as time goes on. At this time, it is important that we collectively raise our voices against such acts of insurrection and mob violence if we believe in democracy and support the Constitution of the United States of America.

Tonight I ask you to support and vote on the attached "Resolution: In Condemnation of the Events of January 6, 2021 at the United States Capitol" upon first reading.

Councilor Owen Zaret and I are proud to cosponsor this resolution. I thank Councilor Zaret for co-authoring this resolution and I share his enthusiastic support.

I also want to thank Police Chief Bob Alberti who fully supports and affirms this resolution.

Thank you.

## **RESOLUTION: In Condemnation of the events of January 6, 2021 at the United States Capitol Building**

**WHEREAS**, the fundamental foundation of our country's elections are based on democratic principles that guarantee that every vote is counted, and assumes a free, fair, legal and legitimate process; and

**WHEREAS**, the winner of the United States' Presidential election process is reliant on the system of the electoral college, where the winner receives at least 270 electoral votes; and

**WHEREAS**, the outcome of the United States presidential election resulted in a popular vote of 81,283,098 (51.3%) for Joseph R Biden and 74,222,958 (46.8%) for Donald J Trump, and electoral college votes of 306 for Biden and 232 for Trump, and

**WHEREAS**, despite widespread accusations of voter fraud, resulting in multiple court cases, recounts and audits, there was no demonstrable evidence found, and

**WHEREAS**, the constitution specifies a process of appointing electors, casting votes, and state certification, with final certification in joint session of the House and Senate on January 6, and

**WHEREAS**, 18 US code 2384 describes sedition as two or more persons in any State or Territory, or in any place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, who conspire to overthrow, put down, or to destroy by force the Government of the United States, or to levy war against them, or to oppose by force the authority thereof, or by force to prevent, hinder, or delay the execution of any law of the United States, or by force to seize, take, or possess any property of the United States contrary to the authority thereof, and

**WHEREAS**, on January 6th, 2021 a mob assembled in Washington, DC for the purpose of marching on the Capitol building with intent to do damage to government property and buildings, and to do harm to members of the House and Senate, for the purpose of disrupting the certification of electoral votes in joint session, and

**WHEREAS**, the rioters attended a rally hosted by the sitting President of the United States, Donald J Trump and were incited by him and others close to him, to disrupt the certification of the electoral votes which had been duly certified by each State, and

**WHEREAS**, rioters numbering in the thousands then descended upon the Capitol building, and were met by a small, underprepared and overwhelmed Capitol police detail, and

**WHEREAS**, demonstrations for racial justice this summer in Washington, DC were met with significantly greater numbers of heavily armed Capitol police, and

**WHEREAS**, rioters wore and displayed symbols of white nationalism and racism, erected a noose and chanted "hang Pence", and other treasonous, seditious, obscene and racist words as they gathered in force, and

**WHEREAS**, rioters armed with various weapons, implements of destruction, and tools of restraint entered the capital, ransacked the building and its chambers, causing members of both

chambers of the house to take shelter, barricade doors, and protect themselves from possible harm. Rioters looted the capital, desecrated historic monuments and stole items from open spaces, hallways, and offices, and

**WHEREAS**, these riots directly resulted in the death of 5 people, countless injuries and significant destruction of government property, and

**WHEREAS**, the US Joint Chiefs of Staff unanimously agreed “We witnessed actions inside the Capitol building that were inconsistent with the rule of law. The rights of freedom of speech and assembly do not give anyone the right to resort to violence, sedition and insurrection.”, and

**WHEREAS**, The foundation of our democracy and the process of counting electoral votes from a legitimate, free and fair election were disrupted and undermined.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of Easthampton condemns the violence that occurred during the riots and the attack on the United States Capitol building on January 6th, 2021; and that these attacks were intent on destroying the fundamental foundations of our democracy and the legitimacy and freedom of our elections; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the City Council of Easthampton denounces all expressions of racism, anti-semitism, and white nationalism, both spoken and written, and the use of symbols whether created, adopted or modified which represent racism, antisemitism or white nationalism that were on display by the rioters on January 6, 2021; and be it further

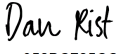
**RESOLVED**, that the City Council condemns involvement of any government officials or agencies in the planning, promotion, or execution of these attacks, and that these are considered acts of sedition and domestic terrorism; and be it further


**RESOLVED**, that the City Council of Easthampton supports peaceful expression of free speech and the right to assemble, upholds the fundamental tenets of our democracy and the Constitution of the United States and furthermore accepts the conclusive results of a free and fair Presidential election.

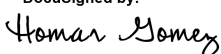
Signed and affirmed on this day, January 20, 2021 by the City Council of Easthampton Massachusetts:

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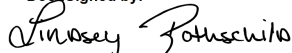
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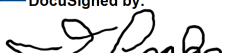
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